WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus connectable with an external printer, comprising:
        communicating means for communication with said external printer;
        notifying means for notifying said external printer of pre-print notification through said communicating means when execution of printing is instructed;
        generating means for processing, after said notifying means executes the notification, data to be printed to generate print data;
        sending means for said sending the print data generated by said generating means to said external printer through said communicating means.

2. A system according to Claim 2, wherein said notifying means sends a predetermined command as said notification to said external printer.

3. A system according to Claim 1, wherein said notifying means executes its notifying operation by exchange of interface signal with said external printer in said communicating means.

4. A printer comprising:
        analyzing means for analyzing the signal received from external means;
        preparation means for executing preparation to be executed prior to printing action when a result of analysis by said analyzing means indicates that signal is instructions of the preparation;

printing means for executing, when a
result of analysis by said analyzing means indicates
that signal is print data, printing process on the
basis of the print data.

5   5.   A printer according to Claim 4,
wherein the signal is a predetermined command.

           6.   A printer according to Claim 4,
wherein the signal is interface signal exchanged
10   with the external means.

           7.   A printer according to Claim 4,
wherein said printing means includes an ink jet head
for ejecting ink, and wherein said preparation means
15   cleans the ink jet head.

           8.   A printer according to Claim 7,
wherein said preparation means effects suction
recovery of said ink jet head.
20

           9.   A printer according to Claim 4,
wherein said printing means includes a fixing device
for fixing toner, and said preparation means heats
said fixing device.
25

           10. A printing system including an
information processing apparatus and an external
printer which are communicatably connected through
communicating means, comprising:
30   notifying means for effecting pre-print
notification to said external printer through said
communicating means when execution of printing is
instructed;

generating means for processing, after the pre-print notification of said notifying means, data to be printed to generate print data;

sending means for sending the print data generated by said generating means to said external printer through said communicating means, said external printer including:

preparation means for executing, in response to pre-print notification provided by said communicating means, preparation to be executed prior to printing action; and

printing means for executing printing process on the basis of print data sent by said sending means.

11. A method of processing printing information to be supplied through communicating means to an external printer, said method comprising:

a notification step of notifying said external printer of pre-print notification through said communicating means when execution of printing is instructed;

a generating step of processing, after the pre-print notification of said notification step, data to be printed to generate print data;

a sending step of sending the print data generated by said generating step to said external printer through said communicating means.

12. A printing method comprising:

an analyzing step of analyzing a signal received from outside;

a preparation step of executing preparation to be executed prior to printing when

the signal is indicative of instructions of
preparation prior to the printing as a result of
analysis of said analyzing step; and

a printing step of execution printing
process on the basis of the print data when the
signal is indicative of print data.

13. A control method for a printing
system including a information processing apparatus
and an external printer connectable with each other
for communication through communicating means,
comprising:

a notification step of notifying said
external printer of pre-print notification through
said communicating means when execution of printing
is instructed;

a preparation step of executing
preparation to be executed prior to printing in said
external printer in accordance with the pre-print
notification of said notification step;

a generating step of processing, after the
pre-print notification of said notifying step, data
to be printed;

a sending step of sending the print data
generated by said generating step to said external
printer through said communicating means;

a printing step of executing printing
process in accordance with print data sent by said
sending step.

14. A memory medium for storing a control
program for operating a computer of an information
processing apparatus connected through communicating
means with an external printer, wherein said control
program comprising:

a code of a notification process of notifying said external printer of pre-print notification through said communicating means when execution of printing is instructed;

a code of a generating process of processing, after the pre-print notification of said notifying process, data to be printed to generate print data; and

a code of a sending process of sending the print data generated by said generating process to said external printer through said communicating means.